



The Observer

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS
Member of The Astronomical League
<http://sbvaa.org/>



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Since 1958

November 2020

Meeting:

November 21, 2020

Location:

First Christian Church
2102 E. Foothill Dr.
San Bernardino, CA

6:00 p.m.

Telescopes will be set up for viewing and members will be available to answer questions. Bring your telescope to observe with us.

*No telescope is too humble,
and beginners are always
made welcome!*

Program

No Dinner This Month

In lieu of a regular club meeting, we will have an informal “star party” in the church parking lot — weather permitting. Please note the change in time. If we have a clear night we should have Jupiter, Saturn and Mars to keep us entertained.

Face masks and “social distancing” are required!

(Astronomers have no problem with social distancing — we always seem to set up with more like 8 - 10 feet of distance so we don't “booty bump” or kick a tripod.)



SBVAA Officers

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

Nov. 14, Star Party/Outreach,
Pioneer Town



Nov. 21, Club Meeting

Dec. 5, Annual Holiday Get-together,
Shakey's, Redlands

Dec. 12, Star Party, Pioneer Town



Dues News

For calendar year 2021 (and 2021 only), club dues are suspended.

Owing to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, i.e. our loss of regular club meetings and also the financial hardship that some members face, your club officers have opted to suspend dues for the calendar year 2021. It is hoped that we might be able to hold some “unofficial” star parties, etc., but that will remain to be seen. If we are able to plan a safe get-together, it will be announced in your newsletter or via one of Tom’s e-mail flash messages.

Miscellaneous Stuff for November

Important note about the pre-meeting dinner: There will be NO DINNER in November and perhaps not until well into 2021. We will keep you posted.

Fidel has the new (2021) calendars available. He will bring some to the church on the evening of the 21st. The cost is \$8.00. If you are not going to attend the November gathering and still want a calendar, contact Fidel at number listed above.

If you are interested in obtaining a pristine Celestron C9.25 including a JMI EV1 2" diagonal focuser and T.V. 2" adapter for it, contact your newsletter editor.

“If only...”. If we had perfect dark skies and perfect vision and Adromeda was brighter, this is what we might see. →



Things to See While in “Quarantine”



Nov. 11 - 12, Northern Taurids meteor shower. Although this is a “minor” meteor shower it is known to produce a higher than normal percentage of bright fireballs. The shower runs from Oct. 22, to Dec. 10, but it peaks this year during the night of Nov. 11 & 12. As with all meteor showers, the best viewing will be after midnight.

Nov. 15, New Moon.

Nov. 16 - 17, Leonids meteor shower. This is an “average” shower, expected to produce up to 15 meteors per hour. It has a “cyclonic peak” about every 33 years when hundreds of meteors per hour can be seen. The last peak was in 2001. The shower runs from Nov. 6, to Nov. 30., but peaks this year during the night of the 16/17th.

Nov. 18, Uranus, shining at mag 5.7, appears in the eastern sky just after dark and climbs to its highest at about 2200. You should be able to catch it even with binoculars.

Nov. 20, Neptune rides low in the southern sky until it sets about midnight. The planet’s mag is 7.9 and its position low in the sky will make it a challenge but a worthwhile one.

Nov. 24, Saturn should remain nicely placed this week. Even the smallest instruments reveal the mesmerizing beauty of this ringed wonder.

Nov. 30, Penumbral lunar eclipse. This should be visible throughout most of N. America. Being a penumbral eclipse, the Moon will darken but not be completely obscured. For more information, see [NASA Map and Eclipse Information](#).

As always, check your sky charts and star guides.